

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release SEPTEMBER 21, 1960

#### INTERIOR LAUNCHES DRIVE TO SAVE CANVASBACK AND REDHEAD DUCKS

An all-out effort is being made by the Department of the Interior to save the canvasback and redhead ducks from the guns of the careless hunter.

The drive is based upon the premise that there is a possibility that nesting conditions for these two species will be improved next year and that as many birds as possible should be returned for next year's breeding season. Regulations already issued put these birds on the fully protected list in all flyways; an educational campaign to aid the hunter observe these regulations is being launched.

Newspapers and radio and television stations are being asked to cooperate. Appeals also are being made to hunters directly through posters to be put up in gun clubs and in other places frequented by hunters. State conservation agencies are aiding in these efforts and are carrying out similar programs.

Special identification leaflets also are to be distributed in addition to the material being carried in newspapers, on television or explained over the air.

The educational drive is built around a drawing of a pair of redhead and a pair of canvasback ducks, prepared by the wildlife artist of the Fish and Wildlife Service. The title is "DON'T SHOOT US". A truism is emphasized--Dead Birds Do Not Nest. This is being distributed to newspapers and television stations throughout the areas in which these two species are found. Appropriate written material is supplied with the drawing. The same drawing is the basis for the poster.

The identification leaflet is designed to train hunters how to observe ducks to determine the identifying characteristics. It differentiates between the diving ducks, to which the redheads and canvasbacks belong, and the puddle ducks. It further points out differences between the canvasback and redheads as compared with other diving ducks. This leaflet has also been prepared by the Fish and Wildlife Service artist.

The drive is aimed at the careless or over-anxious hunter, the well-intentioned fellow who can unwittingly kill a canvasback or redhead duck just as effectively as if he had done so on purpose. The hope is to get the hunters to withhold their fire until they are sure the birds in their gunsights are not canvasbacks or redheads.

Note to Editors: Attached are clip sheets of illustrations from the free field guide for duck identification. The eight individual drawings may be reproduced in a series to be used in connection with the hunting and fishing column or in another suitable place in your newspaper.

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# Know Your Ducks

## FIELD GUIDE FOR HUNTERS

THESE ARE PAGES FROM THE FREE  
FIELD GUIDE FOR HUNTERS  
DISTRIBUTED BY THE  
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES & WILDLIFE  
U.S. DEPT. OF THE INTERIOR - FISH & WILDLIFE SERV.

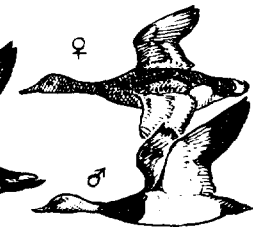


### CANVASBACK

HEN: GRAYISH  
DRAKE: RED HEAD,  
BLACK BREAST  
AND RUMP,  
WHITE BODY.



POWERFUL, FAST FLIER,  
IN V-FLOCKS OR  
WAVY LINES. THE  
SLOPING PROFILE  
IS DISTINCTIVE.

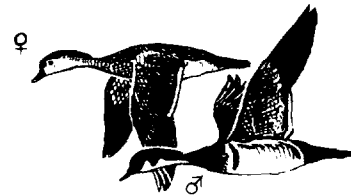
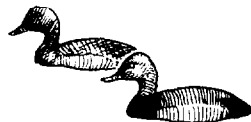


### REDHEAD

HEN: BROWN; GRAY WINGS  
DRAKE: RED HEAD,  
BLACK BREAST  
AND RUMP,  
GRAY BODY.



OFTEN TRAVELS WITH  
"CANS," BUT IS GRAYER,  
HAS BLUISH BILL.

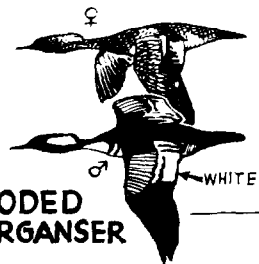


### WOOD DUCK



HEN: DARK BROWN,  
DRAKE: VERY  
DARK BACK,  
WHITE BELLY.

FLYING BIRDS USUALLY  
POINT THEIR BILLS  
DOWN, AND OFTEN  
TWIST THEIR HEADS  
FROM SIDE TO SIDE.



### HOODED MERGANSER

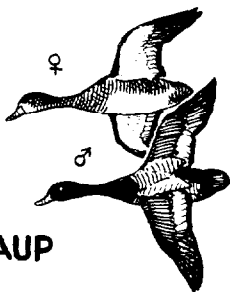


HEN: DARK GRAY.  
DRAKE: BLACK  
AND WHITE;  
BROWNISH FLANKS

OFTEN FLIES IN BUNCH-  
ED FLOCKS. OTHER  
MERGANSERS FLY IN  
LINES.



Assting



### SCAUP

HEN: BROWN  
DRAKE: "BLACK ON  
EACH END - WHITE  
IN THE MIDDLE."



ALSO CALLED "BLUE-  
BILLS" OR "BROADBILLS."  
SWIFT AND ERRATIC  
FLIERS.

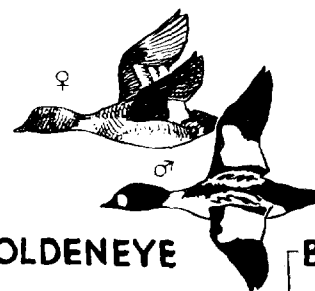


### RINGNECK

HEN: BROWN; GRAY WINGS.  
DRAKE: BLACK,  
GRAY & WHITE.



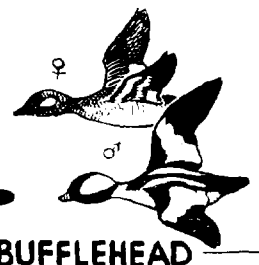
"BLACKJACKS" TRAVEL  
IN GROUPS OF 6-12,  
FLY SWIFTLY, ALIGHT  
WITHOUT  
CIRCLING.



### GOLDENEYE

HEN: BROWN HEAD;  
GRAY BODY.  
DRAKE: BLACK  
AND WHITE

WINGS "WHISTLE" IN  
FLIGHT, A SOUND  
AUDIBLE FOR  
SOME DISTANCE.



### BUFFLEHEAD

HEN: DARK GRAY  
AND WHITE.  
DRAKE: BLACK  
AND WHITE.

ONE OF OUR SMALL-  
EST DUCKS. USUALLY  
IN VERY SMALL  
FLOCKS.

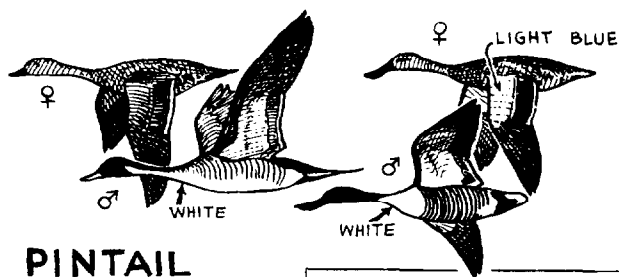


♀: HEN  
♂: DRAKE

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### PINTAIL



HEN : BROWN.  
DRAKE : BROWN  
HEAD, GRAY  
BODY, BLACK  
RUMP.

WHITE BELLY OF DRAKE  
AND SLENDER SILHOUETTE  
OF BOTH SEXES ARE  
GOOD FIELD MARKS

### SHOVELER

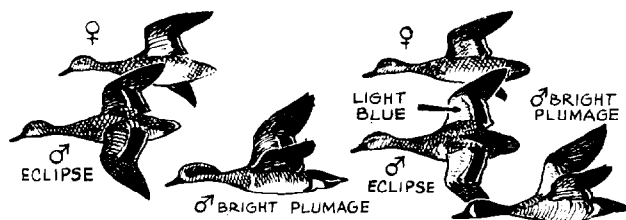
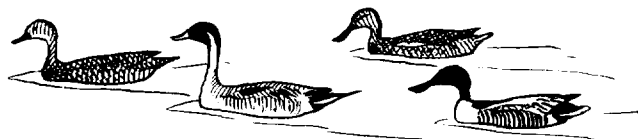


HEN : BROWN.  
DRAKE : DARK  
GREEN HEAD,  
BROWN BELLY  
AND FLANKS,  
SEPERATED BY WHITE.

THE SHOVEL BILL IS  
VERY PROMINENT.



VERTICAL  
TAKEOFF



### GREEN-WINGED TEAL



HEN : BROWN.  
DRAKE IN ECLIPSE:  
BROWN.

DRAKE IN BRIGHT  
PLUMAGE : GREEN  
AND RED HEAD,  
GRAY BODY.

OUR SMALLEST DUCK.  
FLIGHT IS USUALLY  
SWIFT AND ERRATIC.

### BLUE-WINGED TEAL



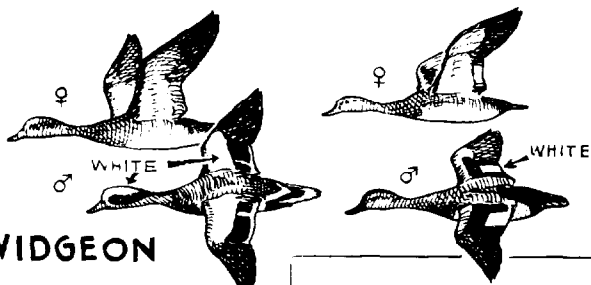
HEN : BROWN.  
DRAKE IN ECLIPSE:  
BROWN.

DRAKE IN BRIGHT  
PLUMAGE : BLACK  
AND WHITE HEAD,  
GRAY-BROWN BODY.

A SMALL DUCK.  
FLIES LIKE GREEN-  
WINGED TEAL.



VERTICAL  
TAKEOFF



### WIDGEON



HEN : BROWN;  
GRAY HEAD.  
DRAKE : BROWN;  
GRAY HEAD,  
WHITE CROWN.

THE WHITE FOREWING  
OF BOTH SEXES IS  
EASY TO SEE AT A  
DISTANCE.

### GADWALL

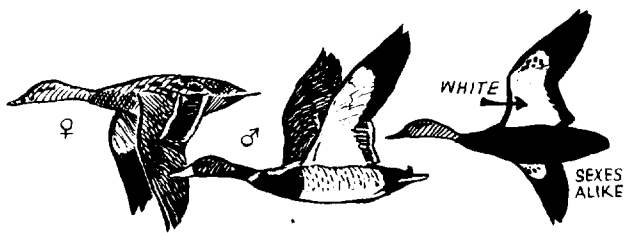
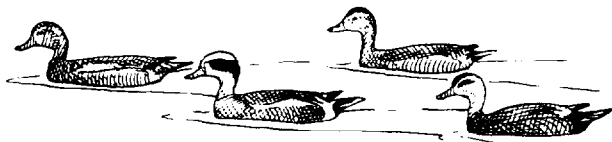


HEN : BROWN.  
DRAKE : GRAY  
BODY, BLACK  
RUMP, WHITE  
BODY.

THE WHITE SPECULUM  
SHOWS ON BOTH  
DRAKE AND HEN.



VERTICAL  
TAKEOFF



### MALLARD



HEN : BROWN.  
DRAKE : GREEN  
HEAD, BROWN  
BREAST, GRAY  
BODY, BLACK  
RUMP.

DRAKE IS THE ONLY  
DUCK WITH A NARROW  
WHITE NECK RING.

### BLACK DUCK



BROWN HEAD,  
BLACK BODY.

WHITE UNDERWING  
VERY CONSPICUOUS  
IN FLIGHT.



VERTICAL  
TAKEOFF



♀ : HEN  
♂ : DRAKE